

Idioms

To stick your neck out is to say or do something that is bold and a bit dangerous. A similar idiom that is used for slightly more dangerous situations is to "go out on a limb." In both idioms, the idea is that you put yourself in a vulnerable position.

To break the ice is to be the first one to say or do something, with the expectation that others will then follow. Another idiom that means something similar is "get the ball rolling."

To get long in the tooth means to get old. The expression was originally used when referring to horses since gums recede with age. So the longer the teeth a horse has, the older it is said to be.

To have a chip on one's shoulder is usually an expression to describe a person who acts, as you say, rudely or aggressively, but also in a manner that could be described as "aggressively defensive." The person seems always ready for a fight.

Directions: Write the meanings of these frequently used idioms:

1. going bananas _____
2. see eye to eye _____
3. under the weather _____
4. stuffed to the gills _____
5. just what the doctor ordered _____
6. born yesterday _____
7. cat has your tongue _____
8. sells like hotcakes _____
9. back to the wall _____
10. breathtaking view _____